

REMARKS

Claims 1-58 are pending in the present application. Claims 5, 6, 13, and 14 have been cancelled. Claim 2 has been amended to delete "or ether". Claims 1, 36, 37 and 58 have been amended to add "2-propanol". A formal drawing of Figure 1 is attached.

In the advisory action, the Examiner states that "in claims 1, 36, 37 and 58, a phrase "and mixtures thereof" in (c) is recited; however, according to the specification, there is no specific mixtures of the alcohols in any combination; therefore, the removal of the phrase is recommended...."

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The specification at page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 4 provides literal support for the phrase "and mixtures thereof". In particular page 3, line 33 to page 4 line 4 states:

"The alcohol is selected from methanol, n-propanol, n-butanol, 2-propanol, 2-ethyl hexanol, isohexanol, isoheptanol, isooctanol, isononanol, 3,5,5-trimethyl hexanol, isodecanol, isotridecanol, 1-octanol, 1-decanol, 1-dodecanol, 1-tetradecanol and the mixtures thereof."

For completeness sake, Applicant has amended 2-propanol into the list of alcohols in claims 1, 36, 37 and 58 so that the list of alcohols in the claims and the list of alcohols at page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 4 are literally the same. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

In the advisory action, the Examiner also states that "or ether" in claim 2 lacks antecedent basis. Applicant has deleted the language from claim 2.

In addition, the summary sheet states at paragraph 8 that the drawing correction filed 28 December 2000 is disapproved by the Examiner. Applicant has submitted a formal drawing of Figure 1 in response.

Further, Applicant reiterates their request that the finality of the office action be withdrawn as the rejection of claim 1 over the phrase "contacting an olefin or ether" was new and was not necessitated by Applicant's June 13, 2003 amendment. Likewise, Applicant also requests that the finality of the office action be withdrawn in light of another new rejection. The rejection of claim 1 over the language "and mixtures thereof" is a new ground of rejection that was not necessitated by Applicants amendment of November 13, 2003. (The phrase was inserted in claim 1 on *June 12, 2003*, in the amendment *prior* to the most recent amendment of November 13, 2003). Thus, under MPEP § 706.07(a), the finality of the office action should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this amendment including extension of time fees, the Office is authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 05-1712.

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~~*Feb 3 2004*~~

 Date

Respectfully submitted,

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